

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A fishing lure, comprising:

a body having at least one cavity in a midsection of the body for receiving a weight, a shank containing region extending between the at least one cavity in the midsection of the body and a nose of the body, and at least one opening in a top surface of body;

a hook having a weight coupled to the hook along a shank of the hook such that the weight is positioned closer to a throat of the hook than to a line receiving portion of the hook;

wherein the hook is positioned in the at least one cavity such that at least a portion of the weight contacts inner surfaces of the at least one cavity thereby resisting the hook from being pulled from the body through the shank containing region when the hook is pulled at the line receiving portion of the hook;

wherein the weight coupled to the hook is positioned in the at least one cavity in the body such that a midpoint of the weight is proximate to a midpoint of the lure such that a longitudinal axis of the lure is generally horizontal when the lure is in water;

wherein the at least one cavity includes an inner wall in the midsection of the body having a portion that is generally orthogonal to the shank containing region that prevents the weight from being pulled through the shank containing region; and

wherein a leading edge of the weight attached to the hook is generally orthogonal to the shank, and the leading edge of the weight contacts the portion of the cavity that is generally orthogonal to the shank containing region to prevent the hook from being pulled through the shank containing region;

wherein at least a portion of the weight is coupled to a bend of the hook;

wherein the weight further comprises a base;

at least one body saving device coupled to the base; and

wherein the body saving device comprises at least one protrusion extending from an outer surface of the base proximate to an edge of the weight positioned proximate to a bottom edge of the body.

2. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein bottom aspects of the weight are substantially enclosed by the body.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The fishing lure of claim [[4]] 1, wherein the base extends substantially an entire length of the weight.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The fishing lure of claim [[7]] 1, wherein the at least one protrusion comprises at least one protrusion extending from each side of the weight.

9. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 8, wherein the at least one protrusion comprises at least two protrusions on a first side and at least two protrusions on a second side generally opposite the first side.

10. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the weight is formed from materials selected from the group consisting of lead, tin, and tungsten.

11. (Currently Amended) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the ~~weight~~
~~has a base~~ is aligned generally with the shank of the hook that extends wider than a width of the hook.

12. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the body includes a head at a first end, a tail at a second end generally opposite to the first end, and at least one set of legs extending from the head.

13. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the body further includes a plurality of ribs extending around the body and positioned generally orthogonal to a longitudinal axis of the body.

14. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the at least one cavity includes a weight containing region and a shank containing region extending from the weight containing region toward a nose of the body and sized to allow a shank of the hook to be inserted into the shank containing region but to restrict the weight from being inserted into the shank containing region.

15. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 1, wherein the line receiving region is an eye protruding through a leading surface of the body.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A fishing lure resembling a shrimp, comprising:

an elongated body configured to resemble a shrimp and having at least one cavity in a midsection of the body, a head, a tail, and a plurality of legs extending from the head;

a hook having a weight coupled to the hook along a shank of the hook such that the weight is positioned closer to a throat of the hook than to a line receiving portion of the hook;

wherein the hook is positioned in the at least one cavity such that at least a portion of the weight contacts inner surfaces of the at least one cavity thereby resisting the hook from being pulled from the body when the hook is pulled at the line receiving portion of the hook;

wherein the weight coupled to the hook is positioned in the at least one cavity in the body such that a midpoint of the weight is proximate to a midpoint of the lure such that a longitudinal axis of the lure is generally horizontal when the lure is in water to resemble the natural attitude of a shrimp;

wherein the at least one cavity includes an inner wall in the midsection of the body having a portion that is generally orthogonal to the shank containing region that prevents the weight from being pulled through the shank containing region; and

wherein a leading edge of the weight attached to the hook is generally orthogonal to the shank, and the leading edge of the weight contacts the portion of the cavity that is generally orthogonal to the shank containing region to prevent the hook from being pulled through the shank containing region;

a base coupled to the weight;

at least one body saving device coupled to the base; and

wherein the body saving device comprises at least one protrusion extending from an outer surface of the base proximate to an edge of the weight positioned proximate to a bottom edge of the body.

18. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, wherein bottom aspects of the weight are substantially enclosed by the body.

19. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, further comprising an opening in a top surface of the elongated body in communication with the at least one cavity.

20. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, wherein at least a portion of the weight is coupled to a bend of the hook.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The fishing lure of claim [[21]] 17, wherein the base extends substantially the entire width of the weight, and the base has a width wider than other portions of the weight.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The fishing lure of claim [[24]] 17, wherein the at least one protrusion comprises at least one protrusion extending from each side of the weight.

26. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 25, wherein the at least one protrusion comprises at least two protrusions on a first side and at least two protrusions on a second side generally opposite the first side.

27. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, wherein the weight is formed from materials selected from the group consisting of lead, tin, and tungsten.

28. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, wherein the at least one cavity includes a weight containing region and a shank containing region extending from the weight containing region toward a leading end of the body and sized to allow a shank of the hook to be inserted into the shank containing region but to restrict the weight from being inserted into the shank containing region.

29. (Original) The fishing lure of claim 17, wherein the line receiving region is an eye protruding through a leading surface of the body.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Withdrawn) A hook, comprising:

a shank;

a line receiving element attached to the shank;

a bend extending from the shank;

a point on the bend;

a weight coupled to at least a portion of the bend of the hook;

a base having a width wider than a width of the shank and extending substantially
along an entire length of the weight; and

at least one body saving device attached to the base.

32. (Withdrawn) The hook of claim 31, wherein the at least one body saving
device is at least one protrusion extending from an outer surface of the base proximate to an
edge of the weight.

33. (Withdrawn) The hook of claim 32, wherein the at least one protrusion
comprises at least one protrusion extending from each side of the weight.

34. (Withdrawn) The hook of claim 33, wherein the at least one protrusion comprises at least two protrusions on a first side and at least two protrusions on a second side generally opposite the first side.

35. (Withdrawn) The hook of claim 31, wherein the weight is formed from materials selected from the group consisting of lead, tin, and tungsten.